EUROPEAN COMMISSION



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Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the Communication on "The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality: Strengthening their role in the EU's policymaking" {COM(2018) 703 final}.

The Commission welcomes the Camera Deputaților's support for the recommendations contained in the Communication. The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality are core elements of the Commission's better regulation agenda that underpin how it prepares its policy proposals.

The Commission is currently taking stock of how this better regulation policy is working and will fine-tune the follow-up of the Task Force's recommendations as part of this stocktaking exercise.

Moreover, the Commission has proposed to the European Parliament and the Council to discount the Christmas/New Year period from the 8-week deadline for issuing reasoned opinions. It welcomes the support of the Camera Deputaților in this regard.

Protocol 2 to the Treaties (Article 6) gives national Parliaments the right to check legislative proposals for their compliance with the principle of subsidiarity. However, the Commission always thoroughly checks the compliance of its initiatives also with the principle of proportionality, and its Better Regulation guidance and toolbox – just like the common assessment grid proposed – include criteria also for a proportionality analysis. The Commission also takes great care to reply to national Parliaments' concerns or questions about the compliance of its proposals with both subsidiarity and proportionality, as well as on the substance of the proposals.

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The Commission is satisfied that the Camera Deputaților, which is one of the most active national Parliaments in this regard, appreciates its replies in the framework of the political dialogue. It is essential for the Commission that national Parliaments, which play a crucial role in bringing the Union closer to its citizens, keep providing valuable input on the substance of its initiatives.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Frans Timmermans First Vice-President